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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK L. PRYOR, a Senator from the State of Arkansas.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord, who has given Your servants diversities of gifts, bless all who love and serve humanity. May this time of change help us remember the importance of making Your priorities our own.

Lord, give wisdom and strength to our lawmakers as they seek to build bridges of consensus for the good of our land. Strengthen them with the assurance that the purposes of Your providence will prevail. Light up their small duties and routine chores with the knowledge that glory can reside in the common task. Reward them with Your peace and joy.

Lord, we ask Your rich blessings upon our Senate pages who will be leaving us tomorrow.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK L. PRYOR led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 22, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK L. PRYOR, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. PRYOR thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that period of time. The Republicans will control the first 30 minutes and the majority will control the second 30 minutes.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 181. There will be 60 minutes for debate equally divided and controlled between Senators MIKULSKI and HUTCHISON. At approximately 11:30 a.m., the Senate will proceed to a rollcall vote in relation to the Hutchison amendment. There have been a number of other amendments laid down. Senator ENZI, it is my understanding, and Senator SPECTER have laid down some amendments. We are going to do our best to dispose of those as quickly as possible today and move on to other things.

We have a number of nominations we have to consider. We have at least one important piece of legislation we must deal with before we get to the economic recovery legislation. So we have a lot to do. We are going to do our best to not have a lot of procedural prob-

lems, and I am hopeful we can finish this legislation very quickly today and move on to other matters.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate shall proceed to a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the Republicans controlling the first 30 minutes and the majority controlling the final 30 minutes.

The Senator from Arizona is recognized.

LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT OF 2009

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, for nearly half a century, the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 have made it clear that discrimination on the basis of sex with regard to compensation paid to women and men for substantially equal work performed in the same establishment is illegal. As do my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I strongly support both of these antidiscrimination laws.

Unfortunately, some of my colleagues are misleadingly stating in the debate about the legislation pending that it is about pay discrimination. That is not true. The only issue is the length of time of the statute of limitations that will apply in such cases.

In the case *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company*, the Supreme Court considered the timeliness of the civil rights title VII sex discrimination claim that was based on paycheck disparities between a female plaintiff and her male colleagues. Under title VII, a

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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